James Tobler 331 S. 800 E. SLC, Utah 84102 From: jimtobler@yahoo.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 1:41 **PM**

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

James Tobler 331 S. 800 E. SLC,Utah 84102 From: jimtobler@yahoo.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2,2003 1:41 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

James Tobler 331 S. 800 E. SLC, Utah 84102 From: blanehb@yahoo.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 1:57 PM

Subject: Making Nazi Media- Preserve Media Diversity:

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

Hitler would be proud of you and your actions to have just a few people have total ownership of the media. Then we can implement the New World Order (The New Nazis) You should resign as an known enemy of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. You are more dangerous to the American People than Communist China.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous.

More information, not **less**, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

Howard Boyer 164 Rainbow Dr lot 6490 Livingston, Texas 77399 From: djbohney@mchsi.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:01 PM
Subject: Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

The following letter was sent to AK legislators. I am sharing it with you as well as it discusses food advertising and my request of my legislators.

April 2, 2003

I am a registered nurse and graduate student. My research area is child nutrition. Please note that in these days of ?information overload?, I have made a conscious effort to draw information from reputable sources. I will address several issues but they have one common link: the welfare of our children.

The number of U. **S.** children, 0 to 18 years of age, has increased by 8.6 million in the past decade (19. 000 in Alaska, 442,000 in Georgia). This hails in comparison to the 17.5 million born in the 1950s decade but far surpasses the growth rate of any other decade since the 1900s.

The food advertising industry spends \$13 billion annually. The average child watches more than 10,000 food advertisements per year (27/day) and only 2% of these are for healthy food. The prevalence of obesity and time spent watching television has been significantly correlated.

Fourteen percent of our nation?s children and youth are too heavy. Our society has become sedentary, spending countless hours in front of the television and computer. Fast food has become a mainstay. As a reporter from The Australian stated, ??fast food chains keep introducing ever-bigger portions: What was a regular Coke is now small; a large serve becomes a value deal, so that self-indulgence is marketed as self-denial?. This ?portion distortion? is seen in home meal preparation, too.

Our country has suffered a ?societal shift?. We have become ?The Culture of Fear? (Glassner, 1999). Are our fears that keep **us** from letting our children play outside, ride their bikes, and otherwise get the physical activity they need proportional to the everyday risks

of life?

The finger of blame can not be pointed at one sole entity. The advertising industry, parents and youth themselves, and society in general share a major part in healthy nutrition and physical activity.

When does gluttony and sedentary lifestyles become a legislative issue? It becomes an issue when parents, who make efforts to limit television viewing times, ask for help controlling what is advertised on television. It becomes an issue when cities and parks do not allow for safe physical activity. It becomes an issue when taxpayers are asked to underwrite bad habits that could have been otherwise prevented if proper child nutrition, physical activity, and education had been a priority. I would like you to support the following issues: Child nutrition programs, ban or limit to unhealthy food advertising, and ban on vending machines in the school systems.

Child nutrition programs play a vital role in American schools. Research shows that children who eat a nutritious school breakfast and lunch perform better academically than children who do not. Please support full funding of child nutrition programs at the level requested by President Bush in his 2004 budget proposal. Any funding cuts to these programs will be devastating to the 28 million children served by the federal child nutrition programs.

I tread lightly asking your support of the two bans
/ limits requested. No one, particularly Alaskans who
are trying desperately to hold on to the freedoms of
the Last Frontier, may appreciate such actions. I request
your support eradicating unhealthy food advertising
/ availability, and if not that, balancing the quantity
and quality of bad and healthy food advertising / availability

I sincerely appreciate your time.

Very respectfully

//SIGNED// Donna J. Bohney, RN, BSN

cc: The Honorable Ted Stevens The Honorable Don Young
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski FCC Edited version to
Fairbanks Daily News Miner and the Valdosta Daily Times,
Valdosta GA

Sincerely,

Donna Bohney 3547 Lenox Drive Valdosta, Georgia 31605

cc:

Representative Jack Kingston Senator Saxby Chambliss Senator Zell Miller From: To: jimantee33@aol.com Kathleen Abernathy

Date:

Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:10 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Tee Thomas 1210 Ordway Street Berkeley, California 94706 From: To: dvial@pacbell.net Kathleen Abernathy

Date:

Wed, Apr 2,2003 2:15 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

From: tshipp@columbus.rr.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:15 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Mary Shipp 3171 Heatherside Dr. Dublin, Ohio 43017-1821 From: jimantee33@aol.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:15 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Tee Thomas 1210 Ordway Street Berkeley, California 94706 From: jimantee33@aol.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:15 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael **K.** Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Tee Thomas 1210 Ordway Street Berkeley, California 94706 From: tshipp@columbus.rr.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 2:19 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Mary Shipp 3171 Heatherside Dr. Dublin. Ohio 43017-1821 From: dvial@pacbell.net

To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2.2003 2:19 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

From: dvial@pacbell.net
To: Michael Copps

Date: Wed, Apr 2,2003 2:19 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

From: tshipp@columbus.rr.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Wed, Apr 2.2003 2:19 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule **is** issued.

Mary Shipp 3171 Heatherside Dr. Dublin, Ohio 43017-1821 **From:** pvdunionyes@hotmail.com

To: Kathleen Abernathy

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 3:06 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that **use** local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Patricia Davis 1350 Winston Ave Baltimore, Maryland 21239-3413 **From:** pvdunionyes@hotmail.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2,2003 3:08 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell **445** 12th Street, **SW** Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that **use** local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Patricia Davis 1350 Winston Ave Baltimore, Maryland 21239-3413 **From:** pvdunionyes@hotmail.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Wed, Apr 2,2003 3:08 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission **see** the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Patricia Davis 1350 Winston Ave Baltimore, Maryland 21239-3413 From:

Karen Sheaffer

To:

Commissioner Adelstein Fri, Mar **28.** 2003 8:20 PM

Date: Subject:

Comments to the Commissioner

Karen Sheaffer (ksheaffer@rcn.com) writes:

I IMPLORE YOU TO EXTEND THE DEBATE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE NEXT YEAR, REQUIRING ALSO EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE DEBATES, TO RESTORE THE MEDIA TO THE PEOPLE AND FULFILL THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE FROM A CENTRALIZED POWERFUL PRESS GUARANTEED IN THE FIRST AMENDMENT

This is ESSENTIAL to recovering our democracy; Jefferson had it right: WITHOUT A FREE PRESS, THERE CAN BE NO DEMOCRACY

Sewer protocol: HTTP/1.1 Remote host: 209.150.48.105

Remote IP address: 209.150.48.105

From: Mason Nutter To: Mike Powell

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 3:26 PM

Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Mason Nutter 4933 N. Rio Hondo Ave Temple City, CA 91780

April 2,2003

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell 445 12th St SW Rm 8-A204 Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob **us** all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember **U.S** consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Knowledge is power, and a free and diverse media is crucial to any democracy. To allow further mergers only further stifles the voices of women, minorities, and all those who are shut out of the prosperity enjoyed by the few. Imagine what Thomas Paine would say about the situation facing **us** today! Corporate media is un-American. Media which **is** viewed by everyone should speak for everyone.

Sincerely,

Mason Nutter

From: normarael@earthlink.net

To: Kathleen Abernathy

Date: Wed, Apr 2, 2003 3:39 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even **a** cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Cynthia Leaman 9616 Hastings Mill Drive Glen Allen, Virginia 23060 From: azelb@yahoo.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy

Date: Wed, Apr **2**, 2003 3:41 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Azel Beckner POB 1929 Bowing Green, Kentucky 42102-1929 From:

normarael@earthlink.net

To:

Michael Copps

Date:

Wed, Apr 2, 2003 3:43 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.